

GENERAL POLITICAL NEWS.

RESULTS AND FORECASTS.

THE INCOMING ADMINISTRATION AND THE SOUTHERN PROBLEM.—THE SPEAKERSHIP.—NEW REPUBLICAN ORGANIZATION IN THIS CITY.—THE PHILIP CASE.

POLITICAL TALK IN WASHINGTON.

A SPECIAL SESSION OF CONGRESS NOT LIKELY TO BE CALLED.—MR. KASSON'S EXCELLENT CHANCES FOR THE SPEAKERSHIP.—SOME OF THE ASPIRANTS FOR SENATORIAL HONORS.—SENATOR THURMAN'S SUCCESSORS.

A NEW POLITICAL ORGANIZATION.

MEETING OF THE REPUBLICAN CENTRAL CAMPAIGN CLUB.—CALLING OF MEMBERS FOR A RIVAL REPUBLICAN ORGANIZATION.—THE SENATORSHIP THE POINT OF ATTACK.

THE SPEAKERSHIP QUESTION.

There is a disposition to concede the Speakership to Mr. Kasson, of Iowa. He seems to feel sure that it is coming to him, for he returns to his Austrian mission to stay until next fall, although his Congressional term begins on the 4th of March. If he were not exceptionally strong he would not subject his chances to a serious risk by remaining out of the country during the time when the merits of aspirants for the place will be canvassed. At present, however, he has no active competitors. If Mr. Frye, of Maine, is not elected to the Senate and it is now said he will leave the Senatorial post to Mr. Hale, he will probably be in the field. Mr. Conner might also be counted in the race if his chances for the Michigan Senatorship were not so good. It has been suggested that Judge Kelley, as the "Father of the House," ought to be numbered among the candidates, but the suggestion does not meet with much favor for the reason that the mental gifts of the venerable Philadelphia member are not such as to fit him for a position requiring coolness, sagacity and impartiality. He is also objected to on account of his temporary desertion of the Republican party when the anti-money issue raged in Pennsylvania and the West. It seems to be generally admitted that Mr. Kasson has better qualifications to make a successful speaker than any body else now spoken of in connection with the place. He is level-headed, quick-brained and dispassionate. His weak point is his free trade record, which may defeat him. Mr. Frye has excellent and substantial qualities. As to the brilliant, pungent, humorous and sarcastic member from Port Huron, he would be quite out of place with the grave in his hand. Everybody will be glad to see him, but he is not a leader, with the possible exception of the Democrats, whom he has so often hit with his merciless shafts of wit and scorn. No man in the House has been so long a member as Mr. Cassin. He is completing his sixth consecutive term, and has been during this long period of service an exceedingly valuable member both in a political and legislative sense. He has particularly distinguished himself as a keen debater and an aggressive party leader. The Republicans have been in a minority in the House. People who are well informed about the politics of Michigan say there is no doubt that he will be elected to the Speakership. Mr. Burroughs, Mayor of Erie, Pa., has the great advantage of being a Western man with a consistent protective tariff record.

SENATORIAL ASPIRANTS.

The Maine Senatorship appears to lie between Mr. Frye and Mr. Hale, with a chance of Mr. Reed as a third candidate, and a possibility, in case of a prolonged struggle, that Mr. Hamlin will be returned in spite of his partial declaration to be a candidate. Mr. Frye and Mr. Reed are both stopped by the danger of leaving their districts to the chances of another Congressional election, in the present state of Maine politics, and with so narrow a Republican margin in the House that not a single vote can be safely spared. In case Mr. Hale does not succeed it is suggested that he may look to a position in the new Congress, but this suggestion is met by the fact that he has already been elected to the Senate. Mr. Hamlin is a good Cabinet officer with Garfield. Mr. Edmunds, of Vermont, and General Burnside, of Rhode Island, have already been selected, and Mr. Hawley, of Massachusetts, will probably also be his own successor. General Hawley will take Mr. Eaton's place from Connecticut, and will exchange from a case-hardened, narrow-minded Democrat to a vigorous, progressive Republican statesman will be one by which the whole country will profit.

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PRICE FOUR CENTS.

ORIGIN OF THE CITY DEBT.

SEARCH OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE. EXPENDITURES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE PARK DEPARTMENT.—ESTIMATE OF H. G. STEBINS AND W. H. NELSON.—THE COST OF REMOVING STREET OBSTRUCTIONS.—ILLEGAL FEES.

PARTICULARS OF THE INQUIRY.

The inquiry was conducted in the Mayor's private office. Many spectators were present, and Senators McCarthy, Strahan, Baker and Bixby, of the committee. Frederick G. Gidney, Civil Justice of the Eighth District, testified in regard to the cost of disbursement proceedings in the civil courts. His statements were substantially as follows:

The clerks were somewhat in doubt as to whether or not there were any fees in disbursement cases. Corporal Courtney, who gave an opinion that the fees could not be charged.

Senator McCarthy—Mr. Bliss charged here that the Civil Justice came along during the summer and tried to continue the fees. I had no objection to that. I was absent in Europe during the summer.

There is no person, not on the list of court employees, who is in the habit of coming in and asking for fees. If there are any fees asked, it must be by the marshal's office.

Senator McCarthy—Mr. Bliss said that the Civil Justice determined not to receive any fees "as such."

Senator Strahan—Well, it is evident that they are not asked in this court.

Joseph Blumenthal, Superintendent of Incumbencies, gave testimony about illegal incumbencies in the streets as follows:

Some incumbrances are authorized—those within the street line, such as wagons and signs, for which they receive a permit from the Mayor's Marshal. We often come into collision with the street car lines, and then the system itself is abused. The cases of suits for which permits are issued are not in the hands of the marshal, but in the hands of the Mayor's office. I have never seen a permit issued for a street car line. I have seen a permit issued for a street car line. I have seen a permit issued for a street car line.

Senator McCarthy—Does politics influence the schools?

Yes, in many ways. There has been a good deal of waste in the reconstruction of buildings and the building of schools unnecessary. The Board of Education has been very wasteful. The Board of Education has been very wasteful. The Board of Education has been very wasteful.

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